Privatisation of Exim Bank

631. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for privatisation of Exim Bank;

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be finalised;

(c) whether an amendment Bill of the Exim Bank Act is proposed to be brought forward in Budget Session of Parliament in February, 2001; and

(d) if so, other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The question of amending the Exim Bank Act would arise only when the need to restructure the bank's activities has been established.

Fall of Rupee Value against American Dollar

*632. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH LALAN':

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that price of rupee has fallen considerably against American dollar during the year 2000;

(b) if so, the fall in the price of rupee since January, 2000 to the end of January, 2001; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and *(b)* The monthly average exchange rate of the rupee against the US dollar and the

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.